

# **State Agencies/Colleges & Universities**

# **RECYCLING & BUY RECYCLED**

## **Annual Report ■ Fiscal Year 2011**

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Prepared for **Gov. Nikki R. Haley**  
and the **Members of the S.C. Legislature**

Prepared by the **S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control**  
**Division of Mining and Solid Waste Management**  
**Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling**  
*C. Earl Hunter, Commissioner*

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South Carolina Department of Health  
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[www.scdhec.gov](http://www.scdhec.gov)

# Introduction

The S.C. Solid Waste Policy and Management Act (Act) was signed into law on May 27, 1991. The Act, which is South Carolina's comprehensive law on solid waste management, set recycling and disposal goals to be achieved at the state level through efforts at the local level (i.e., state agencies, publicly funded colleges and universities, counties and businesses).

It also requires county governments to keep track of materials recycled and to report annually to the S.C. Department of Health and Environmental Control's (DHEC) Office of Solid Waste Reduction and Recycling (Office). Section 44-96-140 of the Act was amended on October 3, 2000 requiring state agencies as well as state-supported colleges and universities to:

- submit to DHEC a report detailing their recycling programs; and
- provide a list of products purchased during the previous fiscal year that contain recycled material.

The Office is responsible for compiling and reviewing data from these reports and publishing the "State Agencies/Colleges & Universities Recycling & Buy Recycled Annual Report" by November 1 each year. This report provides information for fiscal year (FY) 2011 reflecting activities from July 1, 2010 through June 30, 2011. In addition to summarizing the data

reported, the Act also requires the Office to determine what percentage of state purchases contain recycled material and include this information in the report. Although a statewide tracking system is not in place, the Office asks respondents to report what is purchased (instead of how much). Not surprisingly, many schools and agencies reported buying recycled-content copy paper, toner/inkjet cartridges as well as other paper products.

There are some options available for purchasing officials to buy recycled-content products on state contract. Typically, a state contract is established by the S.C. Budget and Control Board's Materials Management Office when it has been determined that an item has widespread use throughout the state. Currently, post-consumer recycled-content paper and plastic trash can liners are available on state-term contract.

In FY11, 21,164 tons of material was recycled by state agencies and colleges/universities, which is about a 26 percent increase from the 16,795 tons recycled in FY10. The recycling information was compiled from 69 state agencies as well as 32 colleges and universities. Data regarding the amount of material recycled was received either directly from the state agency that completed a recycling survey or the tonnages were received from one of two programs that serve the various

buildings where the agencies are located – including the S.C. Budget and Control Board's General Services or the S.C. Department of Corrections. In addition, both public and private colleges/universities efforts are included in this report, although only state-supported schools are required to provide information.

Again this year, several S.C. colleges and universities participated in RecycleMania, a nationwide environmental competition and benchmarking tool for college and university recycling programs to promote waste reduction activities to their campus communities. During a 10-week period, schools report recycling and disposal data which are then ranked in various categories. In FY11, 10 colleges and universities in South Carolina participated: Clemson University; The Citadel; College of Charleston; Erskine College and Theological Seminary; Furman University; Greenville Technical College; Lander University; Medical University of South Carolina; University of South Carolina; and Winthrop University.

Recycling and buying recycled are important issues and have the potential to save money, conserve natural resources and protect the environment. State government and public schools have the opportunity to serve as a model to the private sector as well as the public on how this can be done.



## About this report ...

"The State Agencies/Colleges & Universities Recycling & Buy Recycled Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2011" is submitted by DHEC in compliance with S.C. Code Section 44-96-140 (C).

Additionally, Act 119 of 2005 mandates that agencies provide all reports to the General Assembly in an electronic format.

# Recycling by State Agencies

Sixty-nine state agencies (up two from last year) recycled 9,635 tons of material in FY11 – a 35 percent increase from the 7,161 tons recycled in South Carolina. Forty-six agencies reported directly to DHEC in response to a recycling survey; the other 23 agencies reported through their recycling vendor. Of the total amount recycled, the No. 1 item recycled was mixed metal followed by construction and demolition (C&D) debris. The C&D debris was – in large part – composed of concrete generated by the S.C. Department of Transportation in the demolition of old bridges to prepare for the construction of new bridges. When it comes to buying recycled-content products, of the 39 state agencies that responded, 34 reported purchasing recycled-content copy paper, followed by 32 agencies purchasing recycled-content toner and/or inkjet cartridges.

## S.C. State Agencies Reporting for FY11

- Administrative Law Court
- Arts Commission
- Attorney General
- Budget and Control Board
- Commission for the Blind
- Commission on Higher Education
- Commission on Indigent Defense
- Commission on Prosecution Coordination
- Comptroller General
- Criminal Justice Academy
- Department of Agriculture
- Department of Alcohol and Other Drug Abuse Services
- Department of Archives and History
- Department of Commerce
- Department of Consumer Affairs
- Department of Corrections
- Department of Disabilities and Special Needs
- Department of Education
- Department of Health and Environmental Control
- Department of Health and Human Services
- Department of Juvenile Justice
- Department of Labor, Licensing and Regulation
- Department of Mental Health
- Department of Motor Vehicles
- Department of Natural Resources
- Department of Parks, Recreation and Tourism
- Department of Probation, Parole and Pardon Services
- Department of Public Safety
- Department of Revenue
- Department of Social Services
- Department of Transportation
- Education Lottery Commission
- Education Oversight Committee
- Education Television Network
- Emergency Management Division
- Employment and Workforce
- Ethics Commission
- Forestry Commission
- Governor's Mansion
- Governor's Office
- Governor's School for Science and Mathematics
- Higher Education Tuition Grants Commission
- Human Affairs Commission
- Jobs-Economic Development Authority
- Judicial Department
- Legislative Audit Council
- Legislative Council
- Legislative Printing, Information and Technology Systems
- Lt. Governor's Office
- Office of the Adjutant General
- Office of the State Auditor
- Office of the State Treasurer
- Patriots Point Development Authority
- Public Service Commission
- Santee Cooper
- School for the Deaf and Blind
- Sea Grant Consortium
- Second Injury Fund
- Secretary of State
- Senate
- State Accident Fund
- State Board of Technical and Comprehensive Education
- State Housing Finance and Development Authority
- State Law Enforcement Division
- State Library
- State Museum
- State Ports Authority
- Vocational Rehabilitation Department
- Workers' Compensation Commission

**MORE TO KNOW:** In addition to the 21,164 tons recycled by colleges/universities and state agencies, Santee Cooper reported recycling 384,144 tons of combustion fly ash and 612,192 tons of gypsum. This material is used in concrete, cement, asphalt and road base stabilization as well as other applications. Bob Jones University reported 6,348 tons of pre-consumer paper from their book bindery that, although recycled, is considered process material and therefore does not count in the state's measured recycling rate.

Commodities Recycled in Tons		
COMMODITIES RECYCLED		AMOUNT (tons)
PAPER	Magazines	33.48
	Office paper	1,471.14
	Newspapers and inserts	32.44
	Corrugated cardboard	857.81
	Phone books	14.74
	Paperboard	2.50
	Other/mixed paper	282.50
PLASTIC (Bottles)	#1 PET	9.74
	#2 HDPE	29.23
	#3 Vinyl	1.44
	Other/mixed plastic bottles	28.13
PLASTIC (Film)	#2 HDPE	0.01
	#4 LDPE	0.00
	Other/mixed plastic film	6.54
METAL	Aluminium (cans, foil)	114.85
	Steel cans	182.51
	Other ferrous metals	185.04
	Appliances	0.12
	Other/mixed metal	2,173.68
GLASS (Containers & Packaging)	Brown	0.96
	Clear	4.74
	Green	0.44
	Other/mixed glass	5.34
WOOD	Pallets	245.14
	Furniture and cabinets	7.79
	Other/mixed wood	0.11
YARD TRIMMINGS/FOOD SCRAPS	Grass clippings	5.85
	Food scraps	0.01
OTHER MATERIALS	Rechargeable batteries	6.45
	Antifreeze	11.29
	Construction & demolition (C&D) debris	1,738.34
	Consumer electronics	26.79
	Cooking oil	5.01
	Fluorescent bulbs	12.80
	Lead-acid batteries	101.75
	Paint (oil or latex)	0.07
	Tires	134.11
	Toner cartridges	12.65
	Used motor oil	556.14
	Used oil filters	26.91
	Other*	1,306.71
TOTAL		9,635.30

# Recycling by S.C. Colleges & Universities

Thirty-two colleges and universities (up three from last year) reported recycling 11,529 tons of material – about a 20 percent increase from the 9,634 tons recycled in FY10. In addition to the list below, two schools – S.C. State University and Columbia College – offer recycling programs but weights were not available. The No. 1 item recycled was C&D debris, followed by grass clippings.

When it comes to buying recycled-content products, 24 colleges and universities reported purchasing recycled-content copy paper, followed by 20 schools purchasing recycled-content toner/inkjet cartridges.

## S.C. Colleges & Universities Reporting for FY11

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|---|--|
| ■ Aiken Technical College               | ■ The Medical University of South Carolina |
| ■ Bob Jones University                  | ■ Midlands Technical College               |
| ■ Central Carolina Technical College    | ■ Northeastern Technical College           |
| ■ Charleston Southern University        | ■ Orangeburg-Calhoun Technical College     |
| ■ The Citadel                           | ■ Piedmont Technical College               |
| ■ Clemson University                    | ■ Presbyterian College                     |
| ■ Coastal Carolina University           | ■ Technical College of the Lowcountry      |
| ■ Coker College                         | ■ Trident Technical College                |
| ■ College of Charleston                 | ■ The University of South Carolina (USC)   |
| ■ Denmark Technical College             | ■ USC – Sumter                             |
| ■ Florence-Darlington Technical College | ■ USC – Salkehatchie                       |
| ■ Francis Marion University             | ■ USC – Upstate                            |
| ■ Furman University                     | ■ Williamsburg Technical College           |
| ■ Greenville Technical College          | ■ Winthrop University                      |
| ■ Horry-Georgetown Technical College    | ■ York Technical College                   |
| ■ Lander University                     |  |
| ■ Limestone College                     |  |

**MORE TO KNOW:** The significant increase in this year's college/university recycling data is due to a change in policy at one school. With a new requirement that all-new construction meet LEED requirements, Clemson University has a goal that smaller construction projects meet the standard that 75 percent of their C&D debris be recycled, with larger projects having a 50 percent standard. This led to Clemson recycling almost 4,400 tons of C&D debris in FY11 as compared to 96 tons in FY10.

Commodities Recycled in Tons		
COMMODITIES RECYCLED		AMOUNT (tons)
PAPER	Magazines	12.65
	Office paper	878.85
	Newspapers and inserts	9.35
	Corrugated cardboard	1,374.22
	Phone books	8.92
	Paperboard	0.00
	Other/mixed paper	803.15
PLASTIC (Bottles)	#1 PET	0.25
	#2 HDPE	5.54
	#3 Vinyl	0.00
	Other/mixed plastic bottles	26.8
PLASTIC (Film)	#2 HDPE	0.00
	#4 LDPE	0.00
	Other/mixed plastic film	3.57
METAL	Aluminium (cans, foil)	17.96
	Steel cans	3.10
	Other ferrous metals	135.06
	Appliances	5.03
	Other/mixed metal	673.32
GLASS (Containers & Packaging)	Brown	0.85
	Clear	0.85
	Green	0.00
	Other/mixed glass	43.25
WOOD	Pallets	112.92
	Furniture and cabinets	18.81
	Other/mixed wood	34.36
YARD TRIMMINGS/FOOD SCRAPS	Grass clippings	1,611.87
	Food scraps	48.27
COMMINGLED RECYCLABLES	Alkaline batteries, ballasts, books, capacitors, carpet, chemicals, medical products and VHS tapes	417.42
OTHER MATERIALS	Rechargeable batteries	3.83
	Antifreeze	2.54
	C&D debris	4,794.68
	Consumer electronics	214.74
	Cooking oil	56.03
	Fluorescent bulbs	26.50
	Lead-acid batteries	12.42
	Paint (oil or latex)	0.71
	Tires	11.95
	Toner cartridges	18.14
	Used motor oil	48.45
	Used oil filters	0.90
	Other*	91.73
TOTAL		11,528.99